

10/537770

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 03/05333

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC 7 G01N21/03 G01N21/05 G01N21/35		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G01N		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	FR 2 767 195 A (COMMISSARIAT ENERGIE ATOMIQUE) 12 February 1999 (1999-02-12)  page 12, line 11 - line 14 page 17, line 7 -page 18, line 17; figure 4 page 19, line 20 -page 20, line 34; figure 5  ---	1-3, 6, 11-18 4,7-10
Y	GB 2 349 207 A (SHIMADZU RESEARCH LAB) 25 October 2000 (2000-10-25) page 14, line 14 - line 19; figure 6  ---	4
Y	US 5 604 587 A (CHE DIPING ET AL) 18 February 1997 (1997-02-18) the whole document  --- -/--	7-10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents :  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search  24 March 2004		Date of mailing of the international search report  02/04/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax (+31-70) 340-3018		Authorized officer  Navas Montero, E

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PCT/GB 03/05333

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 465 147 A (BANVILLE BERTRAND J-R) 2 September 1969 (1969-09-02) column 2, line 38 - line 53; figure 2 -----	1,5
X,P	DE 102 16 047 A (ALBERT LUDWIGS UNI FREIBURG) 23 October 2003 (2003-10-23) column 3, line 26 - line 30 column 6, line 28 - line 61 column 7, line 57 - line 63 -----	1
A	EP 1 229 322 A (HORIBA LTD) 7 August 2002 (2002-08-07) the whole document -----	1

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## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 19  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 19

Claim 19 presently on file fails to define the matter for which protection is sought in terms of the technical features of the invention, relying ambiguously on references to the description and drawings. The aforesaid is contrary to the provisions of Article 6 and Rule 6 PCT, and the said claim 19 lacks clarity to such an extent that a meaningful search is not possible. Pursuant to Article 17 (2)(b) PCT no international search report will be established in relation to it.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

International Application No  
PCT/GB 03/05333

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 2767195	A	12-02-1999	FR 2767195 A1	12-02-1999
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			EP 1171763 A1	16-01-2002
			WO 0065328 A1	02-11-2000
			JP 2002543380 T	17-12-2002
US 5604587	A	18-02-1997	NONE	
US 3465147	A	02-09-1969	GB 1092797 A	29-11-1967
DE 10216047	A	23-10-2003	DE 10216047 A1	23-10-2003
EP 1229322	A	07-08-2002	JP 2002296175 A	09-10-2002
			EP 1229322 A1	07-08-2002
			US 2002102183 A1	01-08-2002